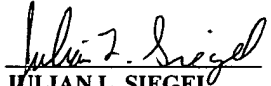
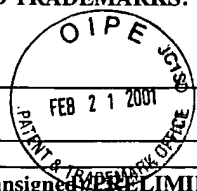


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|--|-----------|-----------|--------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b>   |           |           |        |  | Attorney's Docket No.<br><b>AFB00563</b> |                                      |
| <b>TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS:</b>  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application<br>of <u>Joseph D. Lichtenhan et al.</u>   |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| for <u>ALTERING OF POSS RINGS</u>  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| Enclosed are: <b>CIP APPLICATION/DECLARATION</b> (unsigned) <b>PRELIMINARY RESPONSE</b><br><b>with Petition for Extension of Time</b>  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ sheets of drawings.<br><input type="checkbox"/> an assignment of the invention to _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> a certified copy of a _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> associate power of attorney |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <b>CLAIMS AS FILED</b>   |           |           |        | <b>SMALL ENTITY</b>  |  | <b>OTHER THAN A<br/>SMALL ENTITY</b> |
| For  | No. Filed | No. Extra | Rate   | Fee  | or                                       | Rate                                 |
| Basic Fee  |           |           |        | \$   | or                                       | \$710                                |
| Total Claims   | 26        | -20= 6    | x\$ 9  | \$   | or                                       | x\$18                                |
| Indep Claims   | 5         | -3= 2     | x\$40  | \$   | or                                       | x\$80                                |
| Multiple Dependent Claims  |           |           | +\$135 | \$   | or                                       | +\$270 \$                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |           |           |        | <b>\$</b>  | <b>or</b>                                | <b>TOTAL \$978.00</b>                |
| * If the difference in col 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in col 2.  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>AF 01-0465</u> in the amount of<br>\$ <u>1088.00</u>   |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees<br>associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>AF 01-0465</u> .           |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.   |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees<br>during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit<br>Account No. <u>AF 01-0465</u> .   |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The issue fee set in 37 CFR at or before mailing of the Notice of<br>Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b).  |           |           |        |  |  |                                      |
| <u>16 February 2001</u><br>Date  |           |           |        | <br><b>JULIAN L. SIEGEL</b><br>Registration No. 22407<br>Intellectual Property Division |  |                                      |



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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PTO/SB/35 (11-00)

**REQUEST AND CERTIFICATION  
UNDER  
35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)**

First Named Inventor

Joseph D. Lichtenhan

Title

ALTERING OF POSS RINGS

Atty Docket Number

AFB00563

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached <sup>CIP</sup> application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

16 February 2001

Date



Signature

THOMAS C. STOVER

Typed or printed name

Reg. No. 22,531

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**

Burden Hour Statement: This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is used by the public to request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) (and the PTO to process that request). Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This form is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

U.S. PTO  
09/783719



CERTIFICATE MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER  
37 CFR 1.10 - SEPARATE PAPER -

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO  
AFB00563

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Joseph D. Lichtenhan et al

SERIAL NUMBER  
09/258,249

FILED  
25 February 1999

FOR  
ALTERING OF POSS RINGS

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1722

EXAMINER  
M. Moore

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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